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Congresswoman Matsui Statement on Obama Administration 'Make It In America Challenge'

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-05), a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Make It In America Working Group, released the following statement supporting the announcement by the Obama administration of a 'Make It In America Challenge' that will provide \$40 million in competitive grant funding from the Departments of Commerce and Labor to applicants proposing projects that will accelerate job creation by encouraging companies to bring jobs and investment back to the United States, and by assisting businesses looking to expand. Funding for the Make it in America Challenge will be made available through a Federal Funding Opportunity that will be announced by the start of 2013.

"Our economy became one of the strongest in the world largely due to our manufacturing sector, which creates well-paying jobs and a strong middle class. Unfortunately, over the last decade, America lost nearly one-third of its manufacturing jobs. This new 'Make It In America Challenge,' announced today by the Obama administration, encourages companies to bring jobs and investment back to the United States, helping strengthen our economy and enabling us to be competitive in the future.

"Over the past few years I have joined with House Democrats to promote the 'Make It In America' initiative, which provides a blueprint for strengthening our manufacturing sector. Last November, I participated in the first-ever Sacramento Manufacturing Summit, which brought together local industry leaders to discuss job creation in the manufacturing sector. I am also pleased that my legislation, the Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Act, is part of the 'Make It In America' agenda, and would not only help restore our manufacturing base, but also help grow our clean energy

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